

SAFELY HOME, FAMILIES FIRST

Regional Service Council Minutes

Region #16 Meeting

Date: July 31, 2014

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Haub's Steak Haus, Haubstadt, Indiana

Meeting Chair: Regional Manager Melanie Flory

Meeting Secretary: LaJean Gentry

Call to Order: Start Time 5:00 p.m. CST

Roll Call: Quorum – 5 of 10 Voting Members Present

Voting Members Present

Melanie Flory
Judge Robert Aylsworth
Shirley Starks
Suzanne Draper
Dan Miller

Phone Present

Absent with Regret

Stephanie Repphan

Absent

Judge Brett Niemeier
Judge Joseph Verkamp
Libby Treado
Michael Summers

Others in Attendance

Micci Frye
Natalie Kassenbrock
Rick Carlson
Dr. Donna Culley
Keith Patterson
Sidney Hardgrave
Lori Reinhart
Emily Morrison
Ramona Wilzbacher
Trina Russell
Jan Dotson
Samantha Freeman
Kris Mann
Jonathan Straus
Jeff Gray
Nicole Schultz
Tynesha McGlown
Laura Wathen

Welcome

Melanie Flory welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced herself as the new Regional Manager for Region 16. Melanie noted she has worked previously as the Knox County Local Office Director and was very excited about her new role and working with the great team of directors in Region 16.

Introductions were made, and sign-in sheets were distributed.

Approval of minutes from last meeting on April 24, 2014:

As read X

As corrected

Minutes of the April 24, 2014 RSC meeting had previously been e-mailed. Shirley Starks made motion to approve the Minutes. Suzanne Draper seconded that motion. Minutes of the April 24, 2014 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Program/Committee Reports

Community Partners Report – Natalie Kassenbrock – Natalie stated the reports continue to be posted to the IHBS website and are available through that means. The IHBS Monthly Summary report for June showed there were 152 open cases in Region 16 and 75 referrals made: 4 from Gibson, 20 from Knox, 2 from Pike, 1 from Posey, 42 from Vanderburgh and 6 from Warrick. The second report, the Closed Case Summary for the quarter of April through June, 2014, showed that there were 139 cases that closed during that time period with all meeting at least one goal. Total referrals for the quarter were 214. The third report, the Budget Report for the fiscal year which ended June 30, 2014, showed that the entire budget was spent except for \$156.59. Natalie stated there was approximately \$800 to \$900 in remaining funds, and on the last day of the budget year backpacks and school supplies were bought with those funds for children returning to school. The new budget/fiscal year began July 1, 2014. IHBS is currently running about 3.3% with the target for the month at 8%. There is \$15,000 less in funding for this fiscal year.

Region 16 Practice Indicators – Melanie Flory – Practice Indicators are monitored closely each month. The region will be focusing on several of these: 1. Contacts between the FCM and child at least once monthly with the goal that 100% of the children are seen on a monthly basis. 2. Length of Stay of the Child: Current length of stay averages a year and a half to two years, but the goal is to achieve permanency for children in a lesser amount of time. 3. CANS compliance: Region 16 runs about 99% with compliance.

Practice Update -- Trina Russell – The annual Peer Coach Workshop was held on July 15th and feedback has been good regarding that workshop. Region 16 is a pilot for the Practice Champions program. Practice Champions are FCM's who may not yet be eligible to be Peer Coaches, but who are perhaps interested in becoming Peer Coaches, learning about the program, and providing assistance to current Peer Coaches. Practice Champions were able to attend the Peer Coach Workshop as well, and a Practice Champion from Warrick County was able to attend. Someone from each county is participating in that program.

The next Peer Coach meeting will be held on August 18th in Knox County. Previous meetings had always been held in the same location, but are now moving alphabetically from county to county in the region in order to give the case managers and supervisors the opportunity to learn and participate in the meetings without having travel time.

Focus continues on CFTM's with new workers being identified quickly so that training can occur and they can begin facilitating CFTM's as soon as possible.

Regional Foster Care – Sam Freeman – There are currently 267 foster homes in Region 16; some of those are licensed relative homes. In the last quarter 28 foster homes were licensed.

Ten recruitment events were held during the last quarter. Meet and greets were held in Gibson and Vanderburgh Counties with foster parents inviting people they knew who were interested in becoming foster parents. These events were informal, and it is felt that this is the best method of recruitment. The group is always looking for additional recruitment opportunities, and any ideas or suggestions for recruitment can be sent to Sam.

Support groups have been held in Knox and Vanderburgh Counties for quite some time, but efforts are now being made to set up support groups in each county. Pike, Gibson and Warrick Counties now also have support groups.

Judge Aylsworth asked about the current foster care per diem for a child. Per diem amounts are no longer set amounts, but are determined by the child's CANS score at the time of removal with amounts varying depending on the age and needs of the child. The per diem for infant with no special needs is currently \$19.49 and that figure goes all the way up to \$60 per day depending on the needs of the child.

QSR/QAR Update— Shirley Starks — The next QSR for Region 16 will occur in December, 2014 and the counties are working hard to be ready for that review. Results from that review will probably be distributed during the January 2015 RSC meeting. Any feedback for the counties outside of that review is appreciated.

Permanency Round Tables – Margaret Angel – Margaret was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Melanie noted that Susan Blackburn, Posey County Director, who was the data lead for PRT, has retired and Margaret Angel, Supervisor in Posey County, will be taking over PRT. A PRT has been scheduled for two days in August, and four difficult or long-term cases will be reviewed. Melanie stated going back to the Length of Stay Practice Indicator report, some of the children reviewed may be those children that have been in care for a longer period of time. During PRT those cases will be staffed with a team to brainstorm for some new ideas or things that can be tried again to bring permanency for a child.

Staff members in the region are working on attending orientation training to move toward becoming PRT facilitators and scribes so that eventually the entire region has an understanding of this process and can help with those reviews.

Budget Report -- Keith Patterson – Copies of the budget were made available to members during the meeting. Looking at the June column, the amount spent in the region amounted to \$1,211,303 with the total probation figure for the month being \$499,878. Total year to date expenditures were \$19,980,706. This figure exceeded the budgeted amount for the region by approximately \$500,000 for the year. Keith noted that whatever service needs a child has will be provided regardless of the budget.

Older youth services was not a part of this past budget, but an allocation for those services will be added to the budget for the next fiscal year. The governor is pushing for each agency to reduce its

budget by 4 to 5% and that will no doubt trickle down to the DCS budgets as well. More information regarding that will be reported on as the information is received by Keith.

Unfinished Business

Judges' Updates — Judge Robert Aylsworth – Judge Aylsworth noted this has not been a very active year as compared to previous years. Two things that have affected the judges have been criminal code revisions. The last major revision in Indiana occurred in 1976. Things have been changed and reclassified relating to non-personal crimes but also with regard to child molesting, which will take some time to work through as the courts and prosecutors work to re-educate themselves in matters of sentencing, etc. There has also been a change in the law effective July 1 regarding the opening of paternity files. In Indiana divorce files have always been open, but paternity files were closed. As of July 1st, paternity files are open as to things occurring only after July 1. The old file remains closed. Anything on the record or in the file as of July 1, 2014 will now be public record. This results in the courts now having an old file and a second new file dated July 1, 2014 that they are creating. Any other confidential information in the file such as medical records, psychological reports, GAL reports or child advocate reports, remain confidential and are kept in an envelope in the second file. Anything in the paternity case deemed confidential under Administrative Law 9 remains confidential in that file.

Judge Aylsworth noted they have a chart in the court room which lists the old sentencing categories on the left and the new sentencing categories on the right. If a matter is before July 1, it goes under the old law, but if it occurred after July 1, the sentencing is under the new law. This will take some time to work through.

Judge Aylsworth stated his term on the Juvenile Benchbook Committee will end after the August meeting, and noted he had been a part of this committee for six years. Judge Aylsworth feels being a part of this committee helped him to stay current, was very helpful and educational. He will be assigned to a new committee in the spring of 2015.

New Business

Micci Frye – New Service Proposals – A RFP was closed last month for Region 16. Several proposals were received for that service. After Director review and approval, voting will take place for The Indiana Institute for Behavior Analysis, which is new to the state and does not have a previous contract in place. They have submitted proposals for home centered therapy for the entire region specializing in special needs and ADA services relating to those affected by Autism. This agency is based out of Indianapolis and provides one on one therapy in the home, school and community; parent, sibling and grandparent training if needed; and collaboration with school personnel relating to children, adolescents and adults. It was noted that there has been an increase in the number of children who are diagnosed with autism and there are very limited services in the region for that service need. If approved, their rate will be the same as all other home based therapy providers received. Shirley Starks made motion to approve The Indiana Institute for Behavior Analysis as a provider for Region 16 for services noted. Suzanne Draper seconded that motion. Motion carried.

The rest of the proposals for tonight's vote involve agencies which already have contracts with the state of Indiana but are expanding services to other counties/regions. Promising Futures has asked to expand into Gibson and Vanderburgh Counties. They provide domestic violence services for families and children. Melanie noted that meth and domestic violence were involved in at least 90% of the

assessments received in the region. The main office is located in Merrillville, IN, but they do have satellite offices throughout the state and are looking for a satellite office in this region. Suzanne Draper made motion to approve the expansion of services provided by Promising Futures into Region 16 counties of Gibson and Vanderburgh. Shirley Starks seconded that motion. Motion carried.

The Tara Treatment Center has asked to expand into Region 16 with their residential substance use treatment and substance use disorder assessments. The treatment facility is in Franklin, IN, and will remain there but parents will have the option of going to that facility for treatment. Assessments can be completed there or someone can come to this region to meet the parent. Shirley stated this allows for flexibility in allowing people go to the places they need to go to and is another option when beds in another facility may be full. Shirley also noted that a funding service had been lost and this service may provide another service option for some parents. Suzanne Draper made motion to approve the expansion of Tara Treatment Center and its services into Region 16. Shirley Starks seconded that motion. Motion carried.

Knox County Hospital, Samaritan Center, and The Willows is asking to expand services into Knox and Pike Counties for home based therapy for special needs issues, doing diagnostic and evaluation services, substance use assessments and outpatient treatment. They are also a CMHC so do provide services through CMHC for Gibson, Knox and Pike, but are looking to expand upon that outside of just being a CMHC for those particular counties. They are looking to expand services especially relating to substance abuse and recovery. Shirley made motion to approve expansion of Knox County Hospital, Samaritan Center and The Willows services into Knox and Pike Counties.

Extra Special Parents wants to expand into Region 16 with substance abuse assessment and outpatient treatment services. Their office is in Jefferson County, and they are willing to open up a satellite office in order to service Region 16. No complaints have been received about their services and they are quick to resolve any issues. Suzanne Draper made motion to approve expansion of Extra Special Parents' services into Region 16. Shirley Starks seconded that motion. Motion carried.

The last agency requesting expansion into Region 16 is Abuse Counseling & Education. They want to expand their DV-Batterers Intervention services into Gibson, Posey, Vanderburgh and Warrick Counties. They are located in Greenwood but have stated they are willing to open a satellite office if needed. Shirley Starks made motion to accept expansion of Abuse Counseling & Education services to the above noted counties. Suzanne Draper seconded that motion. Motion carried.

On September 2 a statewide RFP for all community based services will be opened. The RFP process is changing so providers should carefully review how to complete proposals. How proposals are scored will also be changing. The process is condensed and the number of pages that can be submitted is reduced. There will be a bidders' conference in October before the closure of the RFP. Questions should be submitted prior to that conference and providers should attend the conference.

Melanie Flory – Meeting Place and Time -- Melanie stated she feels it is important that the meetings we have to attend are meaningful and beneficial and that we take something away from them so that there is not a feeling that our time has been wasted. Melanie opened the floor for suggestions or changes for the meeting, for the time, the day and place. Judge Aylsworth stated 5:00 p.m. seemed to work reasonably well and the location was fairly convenient for most people. No other suggestions or changes were noted by those present. Melanie stated she felt the meeting was formal and not very conversational. Some commented that it was awkward when those present could not face other attendees due to the way tables were set up. Melanie may look at room arrangement for future

meetings. Shirley noted it was challenging not to have many voting members present but noted it was a busy time of year with vacations, etc.

Miscellaneous

None.

Public Testimony/Announcements

None.

Next Meeting Date, Location and Time: As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. RSC will meet on October 23, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. Central Time at Haub’s Steak House, Haubstadt, IN.

Signatures:

Secretary _____

Chair _____

Date _____

Date _____

Approved: _____(Secretary’s initials) Date: _____

Regional Service Council Region 16 Motion Chart
Date: October 23, 2014
Chair: Regional Manager Melanie Flory

Motion	Discussion	Action	Person Responsible
1. Motion to approve the minutes from the April 24, 2014 meeting.	None	Adopted – Approved by 5 voting members.	Motion by Shirley Starks to Approve Seconded by Suzanne Draper All voting members present approved.
2. Motion to approve new service provider, Indiana Institute for Behavior Analysis, for home centered therapy for R16 specializing in special needs and ADA services relating to Autism.	Location of home office: Indianapolis. Service Rate: Same as other home based service providers in Indiana.	Adopted – Approved by 5 voting members	Motion by Shirley Starks Seconded by Suzanne Draper All voting members present approved.
3. Motion to approve Promising Futures expansion into Gibson and Vanderburgh Counties of R16 for DV services for families and children.	Location of home office: Merrillville, IN; open to satellite office.	Adopted – Approved by 5 voting members	Motion by Suzanne Draper Seconded by Shirley Starks All voting members present approved.
4. Motion to approve Tara Treatment Center's expansion into R16 for residential substance use treatment and substance use disorder assessments.	Location of home office: Franklin, IN.	Adopted – Approved by 5 voting members present	Motion by Suzanne Draper Seconded by Shirley Starks All voting members present approved.

5. Motion to approve Knox Co. Hospital, Samaritan Center, & The Willows expansion into Knox & Pike Counties of R16 for home based therapy for special needs, domestic and evaluation services, substance use assessments & outpatient treatment.	None	Adopted –Approved by 5 voting members present	Motion by Shirley Starks Seconded by Suzanne Draper All voting members present approved.
6. Motion to approve Extra Special Parents expansion into R16 to provide substance abuse assessment and outpatient treatment services.	Location of Home Office: Jefferson County; open to satellite office.	Adopted—Approved by 5 voting members present	Motion by Suzanne Draper Seconded by Shirley Starks All voting members present approved.
7. Motion to approve Abuse counseling & Education expansion into R16 counties of Gibson, Posey, Vanderburgh & Warrick to provide DV-Batterers Intervention services.	Location of Home Office: Greenwood; open to satellite office	Adopted—Approved by 5 voting members present	Motion made by Shirley Starks Seconded by Suzanne Draper All voting members present approved.

Vote count must be recorded in the minutes.